

HOUSE BILL 936

By Freeman

AN ACT to to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 5; Title 6; Title 7; Title 13 and Title 64, relative  
to the "Regional Strategic Infrastructure and  
Resiliency Planning Act".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 64, is amended by adding the following  
as a new chapter:

**64-9-101.** This chapter is known and may be cited as the "Regional Strategic  
Infrastructure and Resiliency Planning Act".

**64-9-102.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Commissioner" means the commissioner of economic and  
community development; and

(2) "Department" means the department of economic and community  
development.

**64-9-103.** There are created regional infrastructure councils of businesses, local  
and state government leaders, and community members to work with state and federal  
agencies to:

(1) Prioritize projects to make existing and future infrastructure resilient to  
environmental demands and damage;

(2) Secure funding for such projects; and

(3) Encourage life-cycle cost and revenue analysis for large infrastructure  
projects.

**64-9-104.**

(a) It is the intent of this act to create multi-service entities composed of representatives from local and state government, private businesses, community organizations, and other entities to address existing gaps and long-term resiliency planning in transportation, water, and other infrastructure.

(b) The goals of the regional infrastructure councils are to:

- (1) Prioritize infrastructure needs in the region they serve;
- (2) Seek federal, private, and other funds and work with federal, state, and local officials to coordinate infrastructure projects;
- (3) Explore and promote infrastructure policy designed to be resilient to natural disasters and scientifically projected changes to the environment; and
- (4) Develop long-term, public-private partnerships to finance and expand infrastructure to benefit the region each council serves.

(c)

(1) Each regional infrastructure council is composed of at least five (5) but no more than seven (7) members, to be appointed by the commissioner, and include representatives from:

- (A) State and local governments;
- (B) Private businesses; and
- (C) Local communities and universities.

(2) The department shall create at least three (3) but no more than six (6) regional infrastructure councils in each of the three (3) grand divisions of this state.

(3) The department shall promulgate rules to establish processes for reporting to and liaising with existing state entities. All such rules must

be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative  
Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.